

## REMARKS

The claims are claims 1 to 14 and 19 to 27.

Claim 1 has been amended to re-insert an inadvertently deleted recitation of "ports."

Claims 1 to 11, 14, 19 and 21 to 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Shoobe et al U.S. Patent No. 6,725,310.

Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 recite subject matter not anticipated by Shoobe et al. Claim 1 recites the controller is configured "to detect whether the input/output (I/O) bridge device is connected to a docking station, to route signals from the parallel input port to the serial output port if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is connected to a docking station; and to route signals from the parallel input port to the at least one of the parallel output if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is not connected to a docking station." Claims 8 and 19 each recite the LPC is adapted "to detect whether the portable computer is coupled to a docking station via the docking connector, to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the I/O ports if the portable computer is not coupled to a docking station via the docking connector, and to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the docking connector if the portable computer is coupled to a docking station via the docking connector." Claim 25 recites "determining to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the legacy ports if the portable computer is not connected to the docking station via the docking connector, determining to route data transmissions from the I/O but to the docking connector if the portable computer is connected to the docking station via the docking connector" and routing data based upon this determination. These claims require routing data from the parallel input port to the serial output port upon detection of a docking connection. These claims further

require routing data from the parallel input port to the parallel output ports upon detection of no docking connection.

Shoobe et al fails to teach this alternative operation of the legacy ports and the serial port based upon whether the portable computer is docked or undocked. The FINAL REJECTION states at page 2, line 22 to page 3, line 9 that Shoobe et al discloses:

"A controller (Q Switch, 318a) coupled to the parallel input port (PCI, 312) and configured to detect whether the input/output I/O bridge device is connected to the docking station (Shoobe teaches of the I/O bridge device (316) capable of detecting if the notebook is docked, COL. 5, lines 63 - 67), to route signals from the parallel input port (AGP Controller 309) to the serial output port (AGP Enable) if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is connected to a docking station (Shoobe teaches that when the notebook is in a docking phase, the high speed serial path is enabled, COL. 5, line 67 - COL. 6, line 2; and to route signals from the parallel input port to at least one of the parallel output ports (318b, 318c of figure 3) if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is not connected to the docking station, (Shoobe teaches that the parallel inputs gets routed through the parallel outputs when the notebook is not in the docking station, COL.6 lines 7 - 9);"

The Applicants respectfully submit this reasoning of the Examiner is incorrect. Shoobe et al states at column 5, line 63 to column 6, line 9 (including those portions cited in the FINAL REJECTION):

"In a preferred embodiment, the logic interface 316 is capable of detecting whether or not the notebook 300 is docked to an AGP-capable dock (i.e., a dock in the "Desktop Replacement Docking" functional grouping), such as the dock 302. If so, an AGP enable signal from the interface 316 switches the high speed serial interface 318 into the circuit; e.g., by closing a switch 324; otherwise, the AGP enable signal switches the high speed serial interface 318 out of the circuit; e.g., by opening the switch 324. In this manner, when the high speed serial interface 318, which consumes a great deal of power and generates a great deal of heat, is not needed (i.e., when the notebook 300 is not docked or is docked

to a non-AGP-capable dock), it is switched off; otherwise, it is switched on."

Shoobe et al teaches logic interface 316 connects APG controller 309, PCI bus 313, USB bus 318b and LPC bus 318c of notebook computer 300 to dock 302 via docking connectors 303a and 303b. The FINAL REJECTION cites two structures of Shoobe et al as corresponding to the claimed parallel input port: PCI bus 312 at page 2, line 19; and AGP controller 309 at page 3, lines 1 and 2. Assume that PCI bus 312 anticipates the claimed parallel input port. The above quoted paragraph of Shoobe et al bridging columns 5 and 6 includes no mention of any change in the connection of PCI bus 312 whether or not logic interface 316 detects the notebook 300 is docked to an AGP-capable dock. The only change in connection of this paragraph of Shoobe et al is in switch 324. Shoobe et al states at column 5, lines 47 to 50:

"Similarly, the PCI bus 312 is connected to the logic interface 316 via a Q-switch 318a, which in a preferred embodiment is integrated into the logic interface 316."

This fails to state that PCI bus 312 is connected to switch 324 or to high speed serial interface 318, the elements that Shoobe et al discloses change depending on whether notebook 300 is connected to dock 302. Accordingly, PCI bus 312 of Shoobe et al is not controlled in the manner recited for the parallel input port. Assume that AGP controller 309 anticipates the claimed parallel input port. The above quoted paragraph of Shoobe et al bridging columns 5 and 6 states that AGP controller 309 is connected to high speed serial interface 318 via switch 324 when logic interface 316 detects "the notebook 300 is docked to an AGP-capable dock." However, Shoobe et al fails to teach connection of this "parallel input port" AGP controller 309 to a parallel output port. On the contrary, Shoobe et al teaches that switch 324 is opened and high

speed serial interface 318 is switched off. This prevents any connection of AGP controller 309 via logic interface 316. Thus Shoobe et al fails to anticipate the connection of the parallel input port to the parallel output port when notebook 300 is undocked. Accordingly, claims 1, 8, 19 and 25 are allowable over Shoobe et al.

Claims 2 to 7, 9 to 18, 20 to 24, 26 and 27 are allowable by dependence upon respective allowable base claims 1, 8, 19 and 25.


The Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this amendment. Entry of this amendment is proper at this time because the amendment serves only to clarify subject matter previously recited. Thus no new search or reconsideration is required.

The Applicants respectfully submit that all the present claims are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Therefore early entry of this amendment, reconsideration and advance to issue are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the below listed telephone number and address to facilitate prosecution.

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Respectfully submitted,



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